been ranked 108 on livability on account of threat of terrorism, civil unreast and military conflict with questionable quality of public transport, minimal health care indicators and generally filled with corrupt people;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the image and ranking of national capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) It may not be appropriate to comment on the methodology used for making such comparisions. However, it may be stated that Delhi has had no military conflicts or civil unrest. Due to the high rate of economic development, it attracts large number of employment seekers. This would not have been possible if the city was ridden with violence and unrest. As far as health indicators are concerned, it has a life expectancy at birth of 69.6 years, higher then the national average of 62.9 years. The Infant Mortality Rate is 29 as against the national average 66. The hospital Bed-population ratio is 2-21 per thousand against the national average of 0.73. Transport infrastructure has been strengthened through several fly-overs and the metro railway system in recent years.

Mine-proof vehicles for CRPF

3096. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Naxals active in some States are using landmines in large scale;

(b) if so, whether the Central forces deployed in the these States do not have Mine-proof vehicles;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) how many vehicles of CRPF have been damaged and number of CRPF personnel died in such landmine blasts; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide Mine-proof vehicles to Central Paramilitary forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Government is aware of the increased use of Improved Explosive Devices (IEDs)/landmine blasts by the naxalites;

(b) and (c) Central forces deployed in naxal-affected States on anti-naxalite duty have been given/sanctioned mine protected vehicles (MPVs). These forces also use MPVs available with the States as they conduct operations jointly with the State Police.

(d) As per available information, one MPV was damaged and 44 CRPF personnel were killed in landmine/IED blasts during the current year (upto 13.12.2005).

(e) The supply of Mine Protected Vehicles from the Ordnance Factory at Medak has been streamlined. Besides, the States have been advised to closely monitor with the Ordnance Factory and take steps to ensure speedy collection of these vehicles.

Ex- Servicemen's corporation for Chandigarh

3097. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether like the State of Punjab, the Union Territory of Chandigarh does not have an Ex-servicemen's Corporation as on date;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter regarding setting up of Ex-servicemen Corporation at Chandigarh was considered by the Chandigarh Administration in 1994 and it was felt that there is no need for setting up of such a Corporation for ex-servicemen in Chandigarh.

(c) There is no proposal at present under consideration of the Administration for setting up of an Ex-servicemen Corporation in Chandigarh.